

## **Health Advisory: Updated Zika Diagnostic Testing Guidance and Potential for Zika Cases Associated with an International Soccer Tournament in Seattle, 12 May 2016**

### **Actions requested:**

- Be aware that CDC has updated its [interim diagnostic testing guidance](#) for Zika virus based on data demonstrating that Zika virus can be found by rRT-PCR at higher levels or for longer duration in urine than in serum. A positive Zika rRT-PCR result is evidence of a current Zika virus infection.
- **Collect urine** for Zika virus rRT-PCR testing on **symptomatic patients** with exposure to Zika virus who present within 14 days of illness onset.
- **Continue to also collect serum for PCR testing** from **symptomatic patients** with exposure to Zika virus who present within 7 days of illness onset.
- Because viremia decreases over time and dates of illness onset may not be accurately reported, a negative rRT-PCR does not rule out Zika virus infection, and **serum should also be collected from symptomatic patients at least 4 days after symptom onset for IgM antibody testing**.
- Continue to collect **serum for IgM** antibody testing on **asymptomatic pregnant patients** within 2-12 weeks of exposure.
- Antibody testing and rRT-PCR testing of urine is only available at CDC and can be obtained after consultation with Public Health. Call Public Health at 206-296-4774 to arrange for these tests.
- Continue to advise pregnant patients to avoid travel to [areas where Zika virus transmission is ongoing](#) because of the potential for [microcephaly](#) and other poor pregnancy outcomes in babies of mothers infected with Zika virus while pregnant.
- **Be aware that the [COPA America Centenario international soccer tournament](#) is occurring for the first time in the United States, with matches occurring this summer in Seattle on June 4, June 14, and June 16; organizers anticipate a surge of international travelers, many from Zika-affected countries.**
- Take a travel history on all patients and ask about association with the COPA tournament. Consider the potential for Zika infections among international travelers who present with Zika symptoms.
- Advise pregnant women who can't postpone travel to an area with Zika virus transmission to strictly follow steps to avoid mosquito bites. Insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, and IR3535 are considered safe for pregnant women when used as directed.
- No specific antiviral treatment is available for Zika disease. Treatment is generally supportive and can include rest, fluids, and use of analgesics and antipyretics. Pregnant women who have a fever should be treated with acetaminophen.

**Testing guidance:** See the attached Zika intake form and guidance documents from Washington State DOH for more details on testing and specimen collection.

### **RESOURCES**

- CDC MMWR on Zika virus testing of urine: [Interim Guidance for Zika Virus Testing of Urine — United States, 2016](#).
- Guidance for healthcare providers: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/index.html>
- Information on Zika virus for pregnant women: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/qa/index.html>
- General information about Zika virus and disease: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>
- Public Health – Seattle and King County Zika Information: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/communicable/diseases/zika.aspx>